

CLAIMS

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method on an information processing system for automatically purchasing products without user interaction, the method comprising:

receiving, via a user dialog, information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites in order to obtain access to at least two of the plurality of auction sites wherein each of the at least two auction sites has a separate auction database and a separate user interface thereto;

receiving, via the user dialog, at least one product purchase request for at least one of a product and a service;

communicating with at least one of the plurality of auction sites using the information necessary to access each auction database through the corresponding separate user interface;

determining if the product is available through the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, and in response to the product being available and until at least one of a (i) bid is accepted and (ii) time has expired for each of the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, performing the following:

determining if a current bid from the auction site is below a maximum limit permitted, and in response to the current bid being below performing the following without further user interaction;

placing [[a new]] at least two new bids including a first bid for the product at a first of the plurality of [[the]] auction sites and a second bid for the product at a second of the plurality of auction sites in order for at least two bids to be active on at least two of the plurality of auction sites at the same time;

determining if at least one of the new bids has been accepted and in response to at least one of the new bids being accepted, canceling outstanding bids at other auction sites of the plurality of auction sites where the at least one of the product and service is available; and

determining if time has expired [[for]]on any of the at least two new

bids for a given auction site of the plurality of action sites and in response to the time expiring, canceling any outstanding bid for the given auction site.

Claims 20.-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) An information processing system for automatically purchasing products without user interaction, comprising:

a profile configuration tool for receiving, via a user dialog, information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites in order to obtain access to at least two of the plurality of auction sites wherein each of the at least two auction sites has a separate auction database and a separate user interface thereto;

an item selector for receiving, via the user dialog, at least one product purchase request for at least one of a product and a service;

an auction command interface for communicating with at least one of the plurality of auction sites using the information necessary to access each auction database through the corresponding separate user interface;

an auction result definition and verification unit for determining if the product is available through the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, and in response to the product being available and until at least one of a (i) bid is accepted and (ii) time has expired for each of the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, performing the following:

an auction bid controller for determining if a current bid from the auction site is below a maximum limit permitted, and in response to the current bid being below performing the following without further user interaction;

placing [[a new]] at least two new bids including a first bid for the product at a first of the plurality of [[the]] auction sites and a second bid for the product at a second of the plurality of auction sites in order for at least two bids to be active on at least two of the plurality of auction sites at the same time;

determining if at least one of the new bids has been accepted and in response to at least one of the new bids being accepted, canceling

outstanding bids at other auction sites of the plurality of auction sites where the at least one of the product and service is available; and determining if time has expired [[for]]on any of the at least two new bids for a given auction site of the plurality of action sites and in response to the time expiring, canceling any outstanding bid for the given auction site.

Claims 26. – 30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising programming instructions on an information processing system for automatically purchasing products without user interaction, the programming instructions including:

receiving, via a user dialog, information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites in order to obtain access to at least two of the plurality of auction sites wherein each of the at least two auction sites has a separate auction database and a separate user interface thereto;

receiving, via the user dialog, at least one product purchase request for at least one of a product and a service;

communicating with at least one of the plurality of auction sites using the information necessary to access each auction database through the corresponding separate user interface;

determining if the product is available through the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, and in response to the product being available and until at least one of a (i) bid is accepted and (ii) time has expired for each of the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, performing the following:

determining if a current bid from the auction site is below a maximum limit permitted, and in response to the current bid being below performing the following without further user interaction;

placing [[a new]] at least two new bids including a first bid for the product at a first of the plurality of [[the]] auction sites and a second bid for the product at a second of the plurality of auction sites in order for at least two bids to be active on at least two of the plurality of auction sites at the

same time;

determining if at least one of the new bids has been accepted and in response to at least one of the new bids being accepted, canceling outstanding bids at other auction sites of the plurality of auction sites where the at least one of the product and service is available; and

determining if time has expired [[for]]on any of the at least two new bids for a given auction site of the plurality of action sites and in response to the time expiring, canceling any outstanding bid for the given auction site.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites is stored in an auction profile database.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for performing a search in response to a purchase request.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for placing a bid in response to a purchase request.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for canceling a bid.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup

Language (XML).

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein at least one of the plurality of auction sites is an Internet-based web auction site.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, further comprising:
an auction profile database for storing the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for performing a search in response to a purchase request.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for placing a bid in response to a purchase request.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for canceling a bid.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup

Language (XML).

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein at least one of the plurality of auction sites is an Internet-based web auction site.